

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 10-30 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 25 is amended.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative at the July 17 personal interview.

Applicants appreciate the Office Action's indication that claims 11-13, 23 and 24 contain allowable subject matter.

I. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 25, 28 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over JP-11354169 to Kobayashi et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

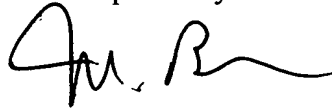
Kobayashi does not disclose a titanium dioxide semiconductor having a fractal structure and defining a surface and an interior as recited in amended independent claim 25. Instead, JP' 169 discloses through-holes or openings 6 in a titanium oxide film. The openings or pores 6 of JP' 169 do not constitute a fractal structure.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: July 25, 2003

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